

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 5 as shown below, in which deleted terms are indicated with strikethrough and/or double brackets, and added terms are indicated with underscoring. Please cancel claims 3 and 8 without prejudice, and without dedication or abandonment of the subject matter thereof. Also, please add new claims 17-22 as shown below.

1. (Currently amended) An adjustable support apparatus for use in elevating furniture, the apparatus comprising a base and a cradle which operatively engages the base so as to be supported thereby;

one of the base and the cradle having a plurality of projections formed thereon, and the other of the base and the cradle having a plurality of recesses formed in a wall thereof which are configured to mate with the projections on the other component when the base and the cradle are operatively engaged, each of said recesses having a projection-engaging surface, said recesses being divisible arranged into groups in which each recess in a group has its projection-engaging surfaces located at substantially the same level such that said projections may be selectively disposed to engage the projection-engaging surfaces of different ones of the recesses depending on an alignment of said cradle and said base relative to each other;

wherein adjacent recesses have projection-engaging surfaces located at different elevational levels from one another,

wherein said cradle includes a support platform adapted to support a support leg of a furniture item thereon and a circumferential wall extending upwardly from peripheral edges of said support platform and adapted to prevent from sliding off said support platform;

and further wherein said base and said cradle are rotatably adjustable relative to one another in different alignments, to variously engage the projections and recesses and thereby establish multiple different height positions of the cradle support platform, and in at least one of said different alignments said cradle support platform is disposed at a level significantly below an upper an upper surface of said base.

2. (Original) The adjustable support apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cradle has a plurality of projections extending outwardly from an outer wall thereof, and the base has a plurality of recesses formed in an inner wall thereof which are configured to mate with the projections on the cradle when the base and the cradle are operatively engaged.

3. (Cancelled).

4. (Currently amended) The adjustable support apparatus of claim 1, wherein the bottom portion an outer surface of the base is tapered such that a bottom portion of the base is wider than [[the]] a top portion thereof.

5. (Currently amended) An adjustable support apparatus for use in elevating furniture, the apparatus comprising a base and a cradle which operatively engages the base so as to be supported thereby,

wherein the base comprises a hollow base body having a central opening formed therein to receive the cradle, said central opening defining an inner wall of the base, said inner wall having a plurality of grooves formed therein to receive projections [[of]] provided on the cradle,

wherein opposite grooves located substantially 180 degrees from one another have corresponding floor portions disposed at substantially the same height;

wherein different pairs of corresponding grooves have floor portions disposed at different heights from one another;

and wherein the cradle comprises a hollow cradle body having a substantially horizontal support platform extending thereacross and a circumferential wall extending upwardly from peripheral edges of said support platform, the cradle having integral projections extending outwardly from an outer surface of said hollow cradle body, said projections configured to be selectively fitted into selected different ones of said grooves in said base inner wall depending on an alignment of said cradle and said base relative to each other, to establish different height positions of the support platform;

said cradle and said base being moveable relative to each other into whereby different arrangements alignments of the cradle on the base to establish the provide different effective heights height positions of the horizontal partition in the cradle support platform, and in at least one of said different alignments said support platform is disposed at a level significantly below an upper an upper surface of said hollow base body.

6. (Original) The support apparatus of claim 5, wherein the grooves of the base are substantially vertically oriented.

7. (Currently amended) The support apparatus of claim 5, wherein the grooves of the base are substantially horizontally and vertically oriented.

8. (Cancelled).
9. (Currently amended) The support apparatus of claim 5, wherein the cradle has a plurality of said projections, said projections are vertically and circumferentially spaced-apart projections extending and extend outwardly from said cradle body.
10. (Currently amended) The support apparatus of claim 9, wherein the base is adapted to simultaneously support said plurality of vertically and circumferentially spaced-apart projections thereon in said grooves thereof.
11. (Original) The support apparatus of claim 5, wherein said projections of said cradle are tapered and comprise wide portions at the upper ends thereof and narrow portions at the lower ends thereof.
12. (Original) The support apparatus of claim 6, wherein said projections extend vertically along a portion of said cradle body which is greater than half of the height thereof.
13. (Original) The support apparatus of claim 5, wherein said cradle body is substantially cylindrical.
14. (Original) The support apparatus of claim 5, wherein said cradle body is formed in a substantially rectangular box shape.

15. (Original) The support apparatus of claim 14, wherein said central opening of said base body is a polygon.

16. (Original) The support apparatus of claim 15, wherein said central opening of said base body is a decahexagon comprising corner portions of two square outlines superimposed at a 45 degree angle.

17. (New) The support apparatus of claim 1, wherein said base is hollow with a central opening defined therethrough, and said cradle slidably fits in said central opening of the base.

18. (New) The support apparatus of claim 1, wherein said support platform and said circumferential wall of said cradle define a cup-shaped recess.

19. (New) The support apparatus of claim 1, wherein said support platform extends substantially horizontally when said cradle is operatively engaged to said base.

20. (New) The support apparatus of claim 1, wherein the entire cradle is disposed at a level significantly below the upper surface of said base in at least one of said different alignments.

21. (New) The support apparatus of claim 5, wherein said cradle slidably fits in said central opening of the base, and the entire cradle is disposed at a level significantly below the upper surface of said hollow base body in at least one of said different alignments.

22. (New) The support apparatus of claim 1, wherein said support platform and said circumferential wall of said cradle body define a cup-shaped recess.